

## The Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 3, 2021

## Daryl Noon sworn-in to serve as the new Navajo Chief of Police



PHOTO: Navajo Nation District Court Judge Malcolm P. Begay administers the oath of office to new Navajo Police Chief Daryl Noon at the Office of the President and Vice President in Window Rock, Ariz. on Jan. 2, 2022.

**WINDOW ROCK, Ariz.** – Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer congratulate Daryl Noon who took the oath of office on Monday, to begin his service as the new head of the Navajo Police Department as the Chief of Police. Window Rock District Court Judge Malcolm P. Begay administered the oath to Noon, who was joined by family members, during a ceremony held at the Office of the President and Vice President in Window Rock, Ariz.

Police Chief Noon is Honágháahnii and born for Bilagáana. His maternal grandfather is Táchii'nii and his paternal grandfather is Béésh Bich'ahii. He is a member of the Navajo Nation and was born in Fort Defiance, Ariz. and previously resided in Shiprock, N.M. Police Chief Noon has served

as the Navajo Nation's Deputy Chief of Police since January 2019. Prior to serving with the Navajo Nation, he worked with the Farmington Police Department in several capacities, including deputy chief of police, for more than 23 years.

On Nov. 30, the Navajo Nation announced former Navajo Chief of Police Phillip B. Francisco's resignation. He left the Navajo Police Department at the end of December to serve as the Chief of Police for the Bloomfield Police Department in New Mexico. Francisco was also in attendance for the swearing-in ceremony to offer his support for Noon.

"It's an honor to join our new Chief of Police Daryl Noon, his family, and his fellow officers as he takes this sacred oath to serve and protect our Navajo people. Together, Mr. Noon and former Police Chief Francisco began building a legacy for the Navajo Police Department that led to an increase in the number of police officers in our communities, salary increases to help recruit and retain more officers, and the ongoing re-evaluation of our criminal code to strengthen our laws and to identify more opportunities for the healing of our people and our communities. We thank former Police Chief Francisco and wish him and his family the very best in their new journey. I have full confidence that with his extensive experience and background, Police Chief Noon will continue building on that success and take strides to improve the safety and well-being of our communities," said President Nez.



Prior to taking the oath, Noon's 94-year-old grandmother Rosalie Yazzie pinned a four-star badge symbolizing his new position as Chief of Police. Following the oath of office, Police Chief Noon praised his grandmother and other family members for supporting him through the years and said that he looks forward to continue making improvements and supporting the Navajo Police force.

"Thank you, grandma Rose. She's been my rock in my life for so many years. The same goes for all of my family members who have been there helping out since I started. You guys mean the world to me. This is not about me. This is about all of us from the command staff to all of the different departments within the Navajo Nation. To be successful, we need everyone's help," said Police Chief Noon, who also acknowledged and thanked former Police Chief Francisco for his support and confidence in him over the years.

"Former Police Chief Francisco was the person who stepped into the role when the Navajo Nation needed leadership in Public Safety. In the same fashion, our new Chief of Police Daryl Noon did not hesitate to answer the call to serve in this higher position. We are very grateful to him, his family, and all of our Navajo police officers and dispatchers for their unwavering commitment and service for our Diné people. It is an extraordinarily challenging job for our officers each and every day, and often they do not receive the recognition they deserve for all that they sacrifice. We congratulate Police Chief Noon, as he has the encyclopedic knowledge of policy, procedures and training. He has earned the trust and respect from his colleagues and community members throughout his time with police department due to his exceptional leadership. Second Lady Dottie Lizer and I pray for continue safety, good health, and plenty of success to Chief of Police Noon," said Vice President Lizer.

Navajo Nation Division of Public Safety Executive Director Jesse Delmar also offered his full support for Deputy Chief Noon's transition to lead the Navajo Police Department.

"On behalf of the Navajo Nation Division of Public Safety, we want to congratulate Chief Daryl Noon on his appointment as the new chief of police for the Navajo Police Department and for reaching such a momentous achievement in his career. Today, we join our Navajo Nation citizens in celebration, to express how grateful we are for him to take on this responsibility. We look forward to the leadership he will bring to our police department and we thank him for his continued service and contributions to the Navajo Nation," said Delmar.

Navajo Police Capt. Emmet Yazzie served as the master of ceremony for the swearing-in ceremony and Police Capt. Ronald Silversmith provided the invocation. Noon's service as the Chief of Police for the Navajo Police Department is effective immediately.

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